

NTTF Macro - Translation of Database ID / File Number

An NTTF macro is used to translate the database ID / file number of a production database into the database ID / file number of a test database.

This feature is relevant when developing an application in a production environment; it enables you to develop an application in a test database and then transfer the finished application to the production database without having to change or re-compile the application.

The transfer is done by a translation of the application's database identification (DBID) and file number (FNR). The translation is done by using an NTTF macro in the Natural parameter module or with the dynamic profile parameter TF. For each file number to be translated, you must specify one NTTF macro.

In the NTTF macro (or with the TF parameter), you specify the production DBID/FNR and the test DBID/FNR. The Natural objects are then cataloged with the production DBID/FNR, but whenever a database access is executed, the production DBID/FNR is translated into the test DBID/FNR; that is, the test database is used. This means that testing can take place in the actual production environment, but not with production data.

This document covers the following topics:

- NTTF Syntax
- Examples of NTTF Macros

NTTF Syntax

An NTTF macro is specified as follows:

NTTF *production-DBID,production-FNR,test-DBID,test-FNR*

To translate all FNRs in the specified *production-DBID* to the specified *test-DBID* and *test-FNR*

- Specify an asterisk for the *production-FNR*:

TF=(*production-DBID,* ,test-DBID,test-FNR*)

To translate *all* production DBIDs and FNRs to the specified *test-DBID* and *test-FNR*

- Specify asterisks for the *production-DBID* and *production-FNR*:

TF=(**,*,test-DBID,test-FNR*)

To transfer the finished application from testing to production

- Simply switch off the DBID/FNR translation by using another Natural nucleus in which the NTTF macro is omitted from the Natural parameter module.

The programs then use the original DBID/FNR with which they were cataloged; that is, the production DBID/FNR.

Examples of NTTF Macros

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NTTF 10,21,30,1  
NTTF 10,22,40,2
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